GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4518
ANSWERED ON:24.04.2008
EXCESS PILOTS CO PILOTS IN INDIAN AIRLINES
Nahata Smt. P. Jaya Prada;Singh Shri Uday

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Airlines has been suffering huge financial losses since the last several years;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether Indian Airlines operates maximum 55 flights daily from Delhi whereas nearly 300 pilots/co-pilots are stationed here;

(d) if so, the facts and the reasons therefor;

(e) whether excess pilots/co-pilots are also the factors responsible for losses of IA; and

(f) if so, the corrective steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a) and (b): No, Sir. Erstwhile Indian Airlines had earned profit of Rs.65.61 crore during the year 2003-04 and Rs. 49.50 crore during the year 2005-06. However, as per the audited accounts for the year 2006-07, the total loss suffered by erstwhile Indian Airlines was Rs.240.29 crores.

(c) and (d): National Aviation Company of India Limited (NACIL-I) operates a maximum 59 flights (under IC code) daily from Delhi and has 266 pilots/co-pilots available in Northern Region, Delhi. The number of flights operated out of Delhi varies from season to season and time to time, as many unscheduled flights like VIP/VVIP charter, extra section flights, army charter flights etc. are also operated out of Delhi.

(e) and (f): No, Sir. There is no direct relationship between Pilot/Co-Pilots and losses of erstwhile Indian Airlines. However, Pilots are positioned at a station keeping in mind factors like Flight and Duty Time Limitations as laid down by DGCA from time to time, agreement signed with Pilots Association, Training requirements for special airfields, for operating additional/extra section flights etc.